

St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

(Congregation established 1913)

December 16th, 2018

Third Sunday in Advent

O LORD Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare the way before thee: Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

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Midsummer night, and bonfires on the hill

Burn for the man who makes way for the Light:

'He must increase and I diminish still,

Until his sun illuminates my night.'

So John the Baptist pioneers our path,

Unfolds the essence of the life of prayer,

Unlatches the last doorway into faith,

And makes one inner space an everywhere.

Least of the new and greatest of the old,

Orpheus on the threshold with his lyre,

He sets himself aside, and cries "Behold

The One who stands amongst you comes with fire!"

So keep his fires burning through this night,

Beacons and gateways for the child of light.

St. John's Eve by Malcolm Guite

(N.B. The Feast of the Nativity of ST. John the Baptist falls on June 24)

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TODAY AT ST. MARY'S

We wish a warm welcome especially to those who are praying with us for the first time; your presence is a blessing! If you would like to identify yourself, or would like know more about our ministry and mission, please speak to one of the greeters and ask for a welcome card which you may complete and place in the offering plate.

Flowers on the Altar To the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for a loving family By Carol M

Nursery for infants & toddlers is available in the Good Shepherd Nursery.

Godly Play in the Children's Worship Centre for children 3 - 6 years. "Today's story is 'The Birth of John' Luke 1.

Faith Quest (ages 7-13) TBA

Coffee and Tea Following the service, please join us for a cup of tea or coffee in the upper hall. Coffee Hosts: Yvonne and Christian S

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Tuesday	10:30 am Forever in Motion Senior Exercise
Wednesday	8:30 am Morning Prayer; Men's Breakfast and movie
	10:30 am Parent and Tots Group
	6:00 pm Study Group and movie
Next Sunday	10:00 am Morning Prayer
	10:30 am Holy Communion

MORNING PRAYER AT TEN O'CLOCK

Prayer Book, pp.6-5, Psalm 63:1-11; Isaiah 13:6-13; Hebrew 12:18-29

HOLY COMMUNION AT HALF-PAST TEN

Ringling of The Advent Bell

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Advent Acclamation (Please stand)

Leader: When the LORD brought back the exiles of Zion,

People: **We thought we were dreaming.**

Leader: Then was our mouth filled with laughter;

People: **On our tongues, songs of joy.**

Leader: Bring back our exiles, O LORD!

People: **As streams in the south.**

Leader: Those who are sowing in tears

People: **Will sing when they reap.**

Leader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost

People: **Bring back our exiles, O LORD as streams in the south.**

Opening Hymn # 108 Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding

Lord's Prayer and Collect for Purity

Summary of the Law

The Collect for the Day

Prayer with children

page 67

page 69, 70

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Psalm: 80:1-3

R. / **Thanks be to God.**

(Prayer Book p.433)

Gradual **Advent Prose**

Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember our iniquity for ever: thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: our holy and our beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.

Drop down...

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing,
and we all do fade as a leaf:
our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away;
thou hast hid thy face from us:
and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

Drop down...

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:
fear not for I will save thee:
for I am the Lord thy god, the holy one of Israel, thy Redeemer.

Drop down...

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-10 Response before the Gospel: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**
Response following the Gospel: **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Intercessions

Offertory Hymn: # 100 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Invitation, Confession and Absolution
Great Thanksgiving, Peace, Prayer of Humble Access

(Prayer Book p. 76, 77)

Communion Hymn: Even so, Lord Jesus, Come

**Even so, Lord Jesus come
Oh divine and glorious son
though we live as your body here on earth
even so Lord Jesus come**

**Gracious Father, Sovereign Lord
your creations one adored
by your hand we receive your majesty
even so, Lord Jesus come**

**Holy Spirit, breath of life
light a path through darkest night
in your care we confess our deepest sigh
even so, Lord Jesus come**

Post Communion Prayer

(Prayer Book p. 85, 86)

Blessing

Announcements

Dismissal

Leader: Judah and Jerusalem fear not nor be dismayed.

People: **Tomorrow go forth, and the Lord will be with you.**

Leader: Stand still and you shall know the salvation of the Lord.

People: **Tomorrow go forth, and the Lord will be with you.**

Leader: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

People: **Tomorrow go forth, and the Lord will be with you.**

--- SILENCE ---

Leader: We wait for your loving kindness, O Lord.

People: **In the midst of your temple.**

Hymn # 101 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

** Please observe a moment for silent prayer**

THE WORD OF THE LORD: TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then every man will receive his commendation from God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-10

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a

prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

PARISH LIFE NOTES

The Mitten Tree (rack) on the landing is ready to be dressed with adult's and children's mittens. Please help keep out the cold. All donations go to Soul's Harbour Mission.

Decorating Bee. Today after worship we are looking to set up and decorate the tree in preparation for Christmas. Families with children are welcome!

Intercessions Book. You are invited to write down the names of persons you wish to have included in the prayers at the Holy Communion in the intercessions book (located on the table with the collection plate and bread and wine,) under the following headings: Travellers, Special Need, The Departed. Please do this before the service begins. You may also submit names via e mail or phone to the church office during the week.

The Bishop's Wife (1947) starring David Niven (as The Bishop), Loretta Young (as The Bishop's Wife) and Cary Grant (as the Angel) is a wonderful, deeply pastoral, redemptive film concerning the Gospel of Jesus Christ, masquerading as a romantic comedy in which an angel speaks and works God's salvation in the life of a troubled Anglican Bishop, his wife, and marriage, and just about everybody else he meets, including an atheist University professor. It really is a must see! This Wednesday there will be two screenings at St. Mary's of The Bishop's Wife. The first will follow Morning Prayer at 9 am and will include breakfast, and the second screening will follow the Wednesday Bible study at 7 pm, and will include snacks. Everyone is warmly invited!

Flower Guild All those who donate Altar flowers please get your forms in before Dec 31st if you still want your spot.

Wool- please see Norma if you are interested in wool, fine wool to knit for little ones.

Women of the Dawn Project Kid Care Christmas Dinner will be held at St. Mary's on Thursday, Dec. 13 starting at 5 pm. Members of St. Mary's Parish Family are invited.

Apocalypse and Prophecy: Advent Lections Study Group - last meeting will be this Wednesday starting at 6:00pm in the lounge and will finish at 7:00pm for a screening of "The Bishops Wife"!

Anglican Journal Subscriptions. The Anglican Journal is a nationwide newspaper of the Anglican Church of Canada that is sent out free of charge once a month along with the Sask Anglican which shares news from the 3 Anglican Dioceses in the province of Saskatchewan. Anyone wishing to receive a new subscription or cancel an existing one is asked to contact Yvonne in the parish office at 522-6052 or stmarysanglican@sasktel.net.

Update on Envelope Pledges to Date: Thank you so much to those who have prayerfully submitted their pledge forms to indicate how you plan to “support the work of the church at home and overseas” (BCP p. 555.)

To date we have received 27 pledges for a total planned giving of \$6357 per month (\$76,284 over year). When developing our budget for 2019, vestry budgeted a pledge income of \$128,698 per year (or \$10,725 monthly) towards a total required income of \$189,918. So we still have a ways to go!

If you have not submitted a pledge form, we hope that you will do so in the next two weeks.

Thank you for your continued prayer and consideration of an envelope pledge for 2019 in addition to the many other gifts you offer the church.

Carol M, Churchwarden.